Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled) .

2. (Currently Amended) The training wheel assembly of claim ~~1~~ 8, wherein the ~~upper~~ mounting bracket ~~having~~ has a slotted hole found therein to allow vertical adjustment of the wheel assembly to allow adjustment of the amount of pre-load applied to the ~~flexible joint~~ elastic polymer connector block, to suit the weight and~~/or~~ skill level of ~~the~~ a rider of the bicycle.

3. (Currently Amended) The training wheel assembly of claim ~~1~~ 8, the ~~visco-elastic connector~~ elastic polymer connector block having a spring effect to allow ~~the~~ a rider to lean the bicycle when turning ~~but~~ to progressively oppose the lean of the bicycle, to assist the ~~novice~~ rider to maintain balance.

4. (Currently Amended) The training wheel assembly of claim ~~1~~ 8, the ~~visco-elastic connector~~ elastic polymer connector block having an inherent damping effect to absorb energy and damp out undesirable oscillation~~/~~ and vibration of the training wheel.

5. (Currently Amended) The training wheel assembly of claim ~~1~~ 8, wherein the ~~visco-elastic connector having~~ elastic polymer connector block has greater stiffness ~~of the spring character~~ in the fore and aft direction to ensure that the training wheel remains substantially parallel to the bicycle rear wheel during use.

6. (Currently Amended) The training wheel assembly of claim 5, wherein the ~~visco-elastic connecting including~~ elastic polymer connector block has two ~~axi-symmetric~~ connectors oriented side by side ~~(~~ in a fore and aft direction ~~)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The training wheel assembly of claim 5, wherein the ~~visco-elastic connector having~~ elastic polymer connector block has a significantly greater dimension in the fore-aft direction than in the lateral direction.

8. (NEW) A training wheel assembly to be fitted to a rear wheel of a bicycle for providing lateral dynamic stability of the bicycle, a pair of such training wheel assemblies to be used concurrently on opposite sides of a bicycle rear wheel, each of said training wheel assemblies comprising:

an auxiliary wheel;

a lower arm having an inboard end and an outboard end, the auxiliary wheel being pivotally attached to the lower arm outboard end;

a mounting bracket adapted to be removably attached to the bicycle rear axle;

an elastic polymer connector block having an inboard surface attached to the mounting bracket and outboard surface attached in series to the inboard end of the lower arm;

wherein the elastic polymer connector block of a pair of training wheels assemblies concurrently used on opposite sides of a bicycle rear wheel bias the rear wheel toward a vertical orientation and elastically bend as the rear wheel leans during a turning maneuver in response to the auxiliary wheel contacting the ground.

9. (NEW) The training wheel assembly of claim 5, wherein the elastic polymer connector block has a significantly greater dimension in the fore-aft direction than in the vertical direction.